

Application Serial No.: 09/785,433
Amendment dated February 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated November 20, 2003

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 20, with the following
rewritten paragraph:

A1
If an online print and delivery service is requested at step 670, the document manager 60 inquires at step 680 whether the delivery information has been received. The delivery information may include for example the user's e-mail address, street address, facsimile, or telephone number, etc . . . If no delivery information was received, the document manager sends a message to the user at step 690 and requests the delivery information. The document manager 60 inquires at step 700 whether the requested delivery information is received. Once the delivery information is received, the document manager 60 inquires whether inquires at step 710 whether a watermark was requested, i.e., whether a variable (e.g., the watermark flag) is equal to a specific value (e.g., equal to 1). If no watermark was requested for the document, the document manager 60 checks for a digital signature tags in the retrieved documents at step 712. If no digital signature tag is found at step 714, the document manager 60 transmits the document to a printer or to an ASP at step 716. The document is then printed and delivered to the user at step 718. If a watermark was requested for the document, or if a digital signature tag is found, the document manager 60 transmits the document to a printer or an ASP along with watermark information and a merge command at step 720. In an alternative embodiment, the document manager 60 merges the document with the watermark information and transmits the merged document at step 720. As previously noted, the watermark information may include the document's name, the document's originator, the document's version, the user I.D., the retrieval date and time. The document is

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then printed with the embedded watermark and delivered to the user at step 722. In one embodiment, the document manager 60 prints out the document with the embedded watermark and delivers it to the user. In another embodiment, an ASP prints out the document with the embedded watermark and delivers it to the user. The delivery may be performed by a number of devices, for example via e-mail, facsimile, courier, or mail.

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Additionally or alternatively, an electronic representation of the document may be transmitted to a printing division or company such as Mineo.com, the document printed, and sent by a delivery service such as Federal Express to the user. Once the online print and delivery service is performed, the document manager 60 assigns at step 724 a value to the online print and delivery service flag, for example the value 1. At step 724, the document manager 60 transmits a display command to inform the user of the retrieval results. For example, the display command can include the URL of the searched document, the titles of the documents, the document itself, the expected date of delivery (if applicable), or any other information relating the search results. The display command may be displayed on the screen of the user's PC 80, or can be displayed as an e-mail to the user, or a facsimile to the user. Once the document is printed and delivered to the user, either with the watermark embedded in the document or not, the document manager 60 can go through a billing routine, for example as shown in FIG. 5D.
